



**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS  
AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE  
EDMONSON COUNTY  
FORMER SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 1998 TAXES**

**As of March 9, 1999**

**EDWARD B. HATCHETT, JR.  
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS  
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Edward B. Hatchett, Jr.  
Auditor of Public Accounts

To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Paul E. Patton, Governor

John P. McCarty, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Sarah Jane Schaaf, Secretary, Revenue Cabinet

Honorable N. E. Reed, County Judge/Executive

Honorable Billy Joe Honeycutt, Edmonson County Sheriff

Honorable James Holder, Former Edmonson County Sheriff

Members of the Edmonson County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the former Edmonson County Sheriff's Settlement - 1998 Taxes as of March 9, 1999. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the former Edmonson County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The former Sheriff prepared his financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the cash basis and laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the former Edmonson County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid as of March 9, 1999, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Paul E. Patton, Governor

John P. McCarty, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Sarah Jane Schaaf, Secretary, Revenue Cabinet

Honorable N. E. Reed, County Judge/Executive

Honorable Billy Joe Honeycutt, Edmonson County Sheriff

Honorable James Holder, Former Edmonson County Sheriff

Members of the Edmonson County Fiscal Court

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated March 22, 1999, on our consideration of the former Sheriff's compliance with certain laws and regulations and internal control over financial reporting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Hatchett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward B. Hatchett, Jr.

Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -

March 22, 1999

EDMONSON COUNTY  
JAMES HOLDER, FORMER SHERIFF  
FORMER SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 1998 TAXES

As of March 9, 1999

<u>Charges</u>	<u>County Taxes</u>	<u>Special Taxing Districts</u>	<u>School Taxes</u>	<u>State Taxes</u>
Real Estate	\$ 229,616	\$ 217,270	\$ 881,355	\$ 354,862
Tangible Personal Property	7,115	6,667	15,803	12,805
Intangible Personal Property				3,064
Fire Protection	1,243			
Franchise Corporation	29,803	24,918	67,002	
Omitted Taxes	537	475	2,149	888
Additional Billings	101	82	224	227
Oil and Gas Property Tax Bills	2,034	1,767	7,806	3,143
Penalties	52	61	104	
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt	21	25	81	(1)
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	<u>\$ 270,522</u>	<u>\$ 251,265</u>	<u>\$ 974,524</u>	<u>\$ 374,988</u>
<u>Credits</u>				
Discounts	\$ 3,028	\$ 2,883	\$ 11,365	\$ 4,745
Exonerations	584	613	2,244	903
Transferred to Incoming Sheriff	54,417	49,338	207,672	83,925
Uncollected Franchise	109	912	478	
Total Credits	<u>\$ 58,138</u>	<u>\$ 53,746</u>	<u>\$ 221,759</u>	<u>\$ 89,573</u>
Net Tax Yield	\$ 212,384	\$ 197,519	\$ 752,765	\$ 285,415
Less: Commissions *	<u>9,314</u>	<u>8,063</u>	<u>28,229</u>	<u>12,418</u>
Net Taxes Due	\$ 203,070	\$ 189,456	\$ 724,536	\$ 272,997
Taxes Paid	202,958	189,353	724,401	272,875
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	<u>72</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>110</u>
Due Districts or (Refunds Due Sheriff) as of Completion of Fieldwork	<u>\$ 40</u>	<u>** \$ (17)</u>	<u>\$ (139)</u>	<u>\$ 12</u>

\* and \*\* See Page 3

EDMONSON COUNTY  
 JAMES HOLDER, FORMER SHERIFF  
 FORMER SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 1998 TAXES  
 As of March 9, 1999  
 (Continued)

\* Commissions:

10% on	\$	10,000
4.25% on	\$	552,686
4% on	\$	132,632
3.75% on	\$	752,765

\*\* Special Taxing Districts:

Library District	\$	(11)
Ambulance District		62
City of Brownsville District		(53)
Big Reedy Watershed District		<u>(15)</u>
Due District or (Refunds Due Sheriff)	\$	<u>(17)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



EDMONSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
As of March 9, 1999

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Deposits

The former Sheriff maintains deposits with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). According to law, the depository institution should pledge sufficient securities as collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge of securities should be evidenced by an agreement that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. This agreement, signed by both parties, must be sufficient to create an enforceable and perfected security interest in the collateral under Kentucky law. The former Sheriff met the requirements stated above, and as of March 9, 1999, deposits were fully insured or collateralized at a 100% level with securities held by the county official's agent in the county official's name.

EDMONSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
As of March 9, 1999  
(Continued)

Note 3. Property Taxes

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 1998. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 1999. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The former Sheriff's collection period for these assessments was November 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998. Collection responsibilities for 1998 taxes have been transferred from the former Sheriff to the newly elected Edmonson County Sheriff as of January 4, 1999.

Note 4. Interest Income

The former Edmonson County Sheriff earned \$2,318 as interest income on 1998 taxes. The Sheriff distributed the appropriate amount to the school district as required by statute, and the remainder will be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 5. Unrefundable Duplicate Payments And Unexplained Receipts Should Be Escrowed

The former Sheriff should have deposited any unrefundable duplicate payments and unexplained receipts in an interest-bearing account. According to KRS 393.110, the Sheriff should properly report annually to the Treasury Department any unclaimed moneys. After seven years, if the funds have not been claimed, the funds should be submitted to the Kentucky State Treasurer. The former Sheriff had \$671 for 1998 taxes, \$288 for 1997 taxes, \$776 for 1996 taxes, \$519 for 1995 taxes, and \$296 for 1994 taxes in unrefundable duplicate payments and unexplained receipts. The Sheriff has deposited \$1,415 to an interest-bearing account. Therefore, the former Sheriff should deposit \$671 for 1998 taxes, \$288 for 1997 taxes and \$176 for 1995 taxes into the interest-bearing account. This interest-bearing account should be turned over to the succeeding Sheriff. Also, the Sheriff's office should send a written report to the Treasury Department.

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE  
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL  
REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS





Edward B. Hatchett, Jr.  
Auditor of Public Accounts

Honorable N. E. Reed, County Judge/Executive  
Honorable Billy Joe Honeycutt, Edmonson County Sheriff  
Honorable James Holder, Former Edmonson County Sheriff  
Members of the Edmonson County Fiscal Court

Report On Compliance And On Internal Control  
Over Financial Reporting Based On An Audit Of The Financial  
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the former Edmonson County Sheriff's Settlement - 1998 Taxes as of March 9, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated March 22, 1999. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the former Edmonson County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Honorable N. E. Reed, County Judge/Executive  
Honorable Billy Joe Honeycutt, Edmonson County Sheriff  
Honorable James Holder, Former Edmonson County Sheriff  
Members of the Edmonson County Fiscal Court  
Report On Compliance And On Internal Control  
Over Financial Reporting Based On An Audit Of The Financial  
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards  
(Continued)

This report is intended for the information of management. However, this report, upon release by the Auditor of Public Accounts, is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Hatchett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward B. Hatchett, Jr.  
Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -  
March 22, 1999

